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DOCTOR STRANGE®

A MATTER OF TIME...

ROGERS AND austin

...WITH SGT. FURY AND THE HOWLING COMMANDOS!

TO ORDINARY MORTALS, TIME IS A RAGING TORRENT WHICH SWEEPS THEM ALONG TOWARDS AN UNKNOWN FUTURE!
BUT TO DOCTOR STRANGE, MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS, TIME IS A GENTLY FLOWING STREAM, WHOSE CURRENTS MAY BE BREACHED WITH MAGICAL EASE!
ONCE AGAIN, DR. STRANGE HAS USED HIS MAGIC TO TRANSCEND TIME ... IN AN ATTEMPT TO FREE HIS DISCIPLE CLEA AND THEIR NEW FRIEND, MORGANA BLESSING, FROM THE GRASP OF THE MALEVOLENT BARON MORDO!
BUT HIS JOURNEY HAS COME TO A SUDDEN END HERE, AT THIS LONELY CASTLE ON THE BRITISH SEACOAST, IN THE YEAR 1943... HIS MISSION HALTED BY TWO MYSTERIOUS MYSTICS...
BASKERVILLE, MY FRIEND, WILL YOU STOP WORRYING?! EVERYTHING GOES AS PLANNED! WE HAVE EVEN DEFEATED THE SORCERER FROM THE FUTURE!
A TIME FOR LOVE, A TIME FOR HATE!
I AM NOT SO CERTAIN OF THAT, KROWLER! TRUE, DR. STRANGE SEEMINGLY LIES HELPLESS IN THE POWER OF YOUR SPELLS ... BUT FOR HOW LONG?
BY THE ABYSS, MAN -- HE PHYSICALLY TRAVERSED TIME ITSELF!
SO? ARE NOT THE GREAT WIZARDS OF THE PAST RUMORED TO HAVE DONE THE SAME? HAVEN'T WE OURSELVES DREAMED OF SUCH POWER?
DO NOT FEAR! SUCH POWER -- AND MORE -- SHALL BE OURS! OBSERVE...
STAN LEE PRESENTS: STERN · ROGERS · AUSTIN · NOVAK · SHAREN · MILGROM · SHOOTER · SORCERERS ALL!

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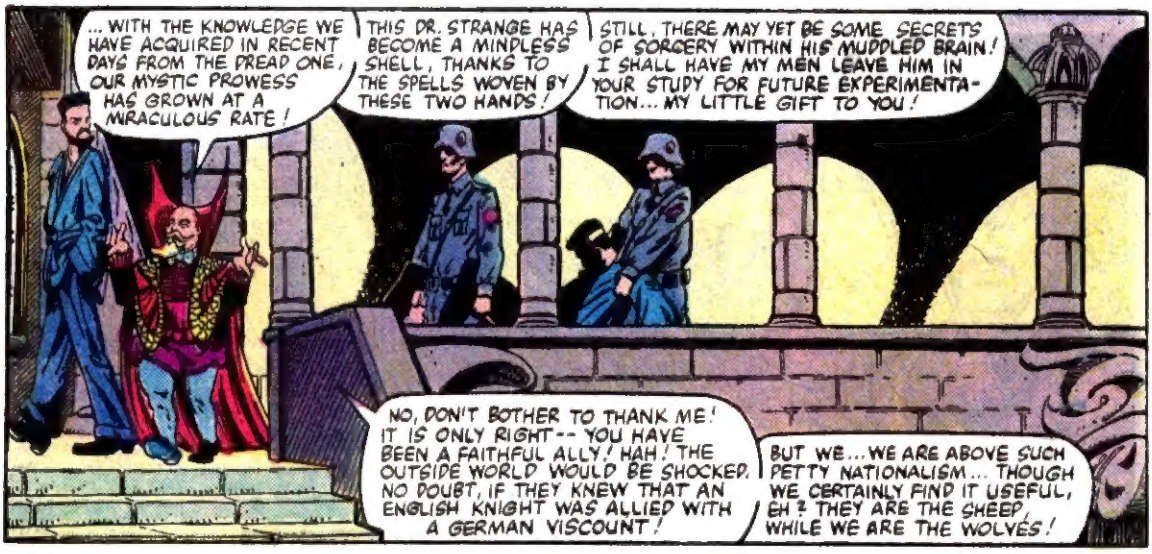
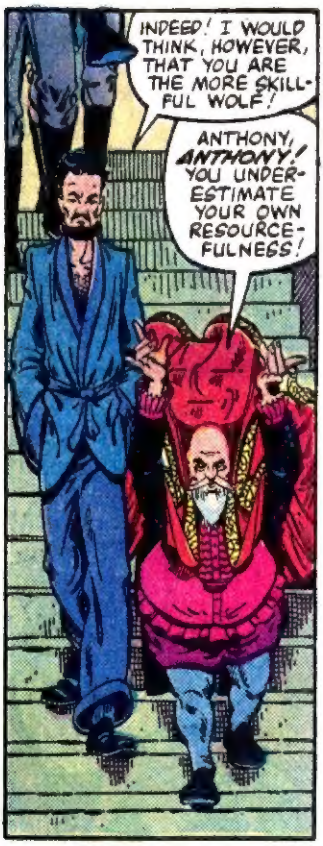
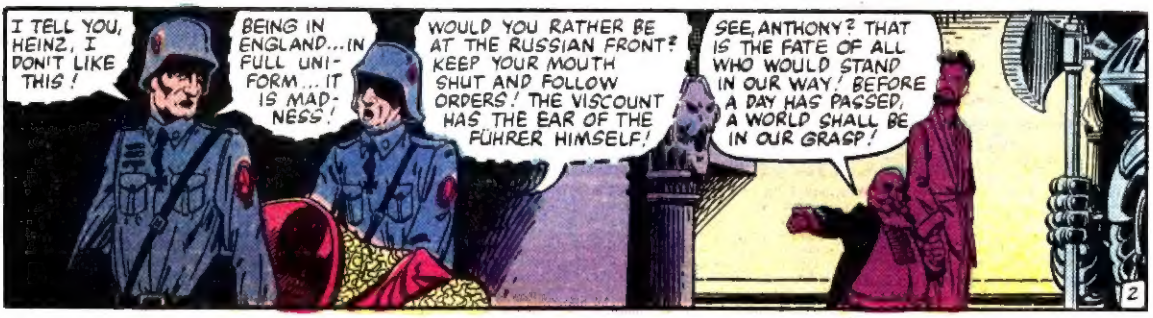

... WITH THE KNOWLEDGE WE HAVE ACQUIRED IN RECENT DAYS FROM THE DREAD ONE, OUR MYSTIC PROWESS HAS GROWN AT A MIRACULOUS RATE!
THIS DR. STRANGE HAS BECOME A MINDLESS SHELL, THANKS TO THE SPELLS WOVEN BY THESE TWO HANDS!
STILL, THERE MAY YET BE SOME SECRETS OF SORCERY WITHIN HIS MUDDLED BRAIN! I SHALL HAVE MY MEN LEAVE HIM IN YOUR STUDY FOR FUTURE EXPERIMENTATION... MY LITTLE GIFT TO YOU!
NO, DON'T BOTHER TO THANK ME! IT IS ONLY RIGHT-- YOU HAVE BEEN A FAITHFUL ALLY! HAH! THE OUTSIDE WORLD WOULD BE SHOCKED, NO DOUBT, IF THEY KNEW THAT AN ENGLISH KNIGHT WAS ALLIED WITH A GERMAN VISCOUNT!
BUT WE... WE ARE ABOVE SUCH PETTY NATIONALISM... THOUGH WE CERTAINLY FIND IT USEFUL, EH? THEY ARE THE SHEEP, WHILE WE ARE THE WOLVES!


INDEED! I WOULD THINK, HOWEVER, THAT YOU ARE THE MORE SKILLFUL WOLF!
ANTHONY, ANTHONY! YOU UNDERESTIMATE YOUR OWN RESOURCEFULNESS!

DID YOU NOT SMUGGLE ME AND MY ELITE GUARD INTO THIS COUNTRY? I DARE SAY, NOT A SINGLE ENGLISHMAN SUSPECTS THAT BASKERVILLE CASTLE HOLDS TWO DOZEN OF THE THIRD REICH'S FINEST WARRIORS!
CAPTAIN SCHMIDT! LIEUTENANT ZIGGLER! REPORT!
THE AIR STRIKE GOES AS PLANNED, HERR VISCOUNT!
YOUR GUESTS ARE BEING CONDUCTED TO THE CHAPEL, SIR!

EXCELLENT! OUR FUTURE SUPREMACY IS ALL BUT GUARANTEED!
YOU MEN! CARRY OUR ... GUEST... TO HIS LORDSHIP'S STUDY! HERE... TAKE THIS CLOAK WITH YOU! IT DOESN'T FIT ME ANYWAY!


I TELL YOU, HEINZ, I DON'T LIKE THIS!
BEING IN ENGLAND... IN FULL UNIFORM... IT IS MADNESS!
WOULD YOU RATHER BE AT THE RUSSIAN FRONT? KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT AND FOLLOW ORDERS! THE VISCOUNT HAS THE EAR OF THE FÜHRER HIMSELF!
SEE, ANTHONY? THAT IS THE FATE OF ALL WHO WOULD STAND IN OUR WAY! BEFORE A DAY HAS PASSED, A WORLD SHALL BE IN OUR GRASP!
2

AND TO THINK, THE MAN WHO MADE ALL OF THIS POSSIBLE WAS MY OWN GRANDSON... BARON MORDO!
MANY WAS THE NIGHT I SAT UP, TEMPTING THE BOY WITH ALL THAT I KNEW OF THE DARK ARTS -- IMBUING HIM WITH THE DESIRE TO GO ON AND LEARN MORE!
HE NEVER GUESSED THAT, THROUGH A TRANSFERAL SPELL PLACED IN HIS YOUNG MIND, ALL HE LEARNED OF MAGIC WOULD BECOME KNOWN TO ME AS WELL!
EVEN NOW, IF I CONCENTRATE, I CAN "SEE" MORDO-THE-YOUNG-MAN AT THE SIDE OF THE LEGENDARY ANCIENT ONE IN SOME REMOTE MOUNTAIN RETREAT!
IT WAS THROUGH MORDO THAT WE FIRST LEARNED OF THE DREAD ONE AND HOW TO SUMMON HIM WITH THE POWER OF HATE!
AND GENERATING HATE HAS BECOME QUITE EASY, THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF ANOTHER UNWITTING SERVANT OF OURS...
"... OUR YOUNG FRIEND, ADOLF HITLER!
"I CAN STILL RECALL FINDING HITLER, AND INTRODUCING HIM TO OUR CABAL OF DARK MYSTICS!
"THEN, HE WAS JUST A YOUNG POLITICAL ZEALOT WITH A NODDING INTEREST IN THE OCCULT. BUT I SAW WITHIN HIM THE POTENTIAL FOR POWER AND CONQUEST! AND WITH BUT A LITTLE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM US --
"--HE HAS FULFILLED THAT POTENTIAL BEYOND MY WILDEST EXPECTATIONS! HE HAS TURNED EUROPE INTO AN ARMED CAMP AND FANNED THE FLAMES OF FEAR AND HATE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD!
"BUT HE IS CRUDE... BRUTAL ... UNDISCIPLINED! SOON, I AM SURE, HE WILL BE SWEPT AWAY BY HIS OWN POWER!
"JUST AS POOR, DELUDED MORDO WAS SWEPT UP IN THE MYSTIC FORCES WHICH HE SOUGHT TO COMMAND!"
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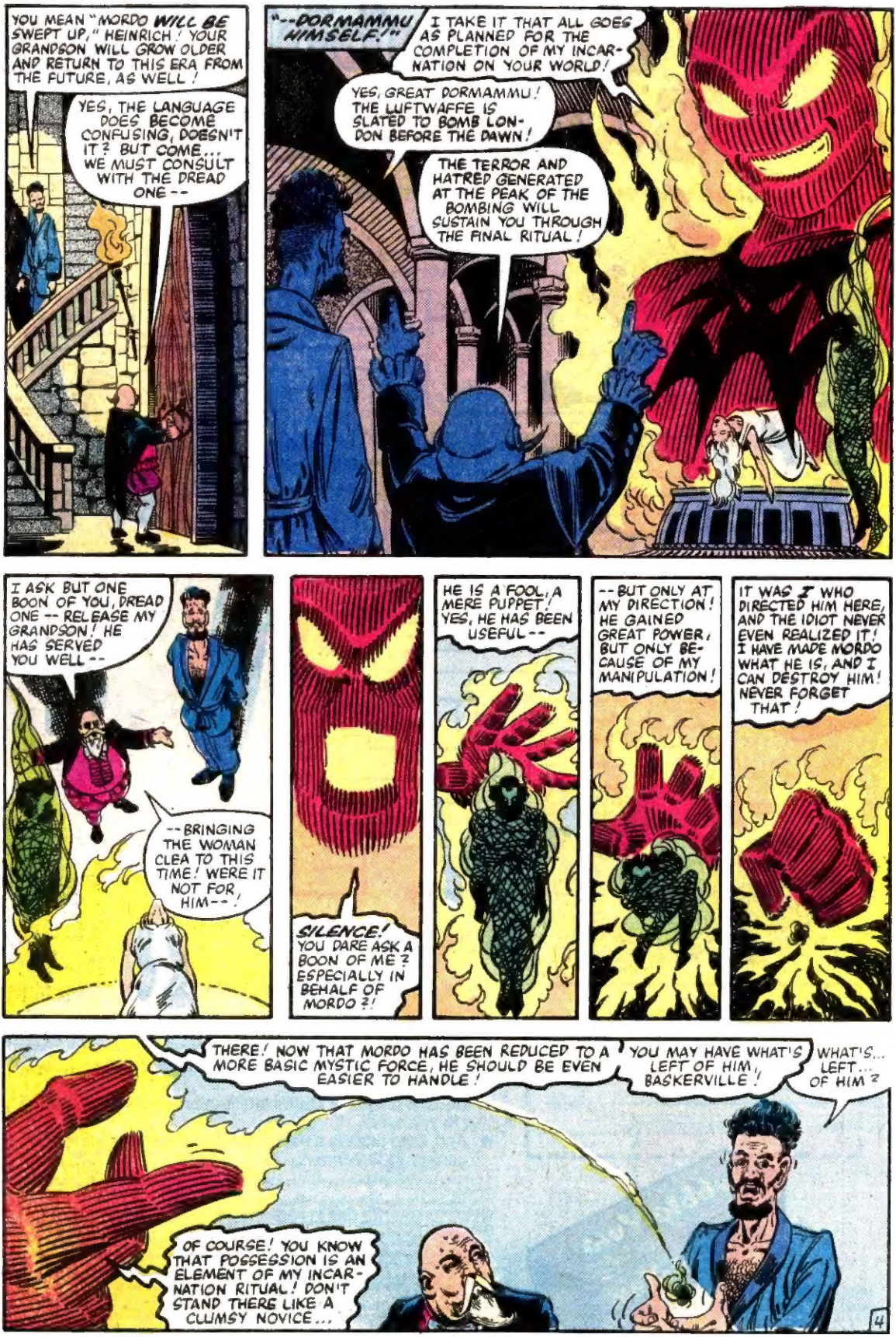
YOU MEAN "MORDO WILL BE SWEPT UP," HEINRICH! YOUR GRANDSON WILL GROW OLDER AND RETURN TO THIS ERA FROM THE FUTURE, AS WELL!
YES, THE LANGUAGE DOES BECOME CONFUSING, DOESN'T IT? BUT COME... WE MUST CONSULT WITH THE DREAD ONE --
"--DORMAMMU HIMSELF!"
I TAKE IT THAT ALL GOES AS PLANNED FOR THE COMPLETION OF MY INCARNATION ON YOUR WORLD!
YES, GREAT DORMAMMU! THE LUFTWAFFE IS SLATED TO BOMB LONDON BEFORE THE DAWN!
THE TERROR AND HATRED GENERATED AT THE PEAK OF THE BOMBING WILL SUSTAIN YOU THROUGH THE FINAL RITUAL!
I ASK BUT ONE BOON OF YOU, DREAD ONE -- RELEASE MY GRANDSON! HE HAS SERVED YOU WELL --
--BRINGING THE WOMAN CLEA TO THIS TIME! WERE IT NOT FOR HIM--!
SILENCE! YOU DARE ASK A BOON OF ME? ESPECIALLY IN BEHALF OF MORDO?!
HE IS A FOOL, A MERE PUPPET! YES, HE HAS BEEN USEFUL --
--BUT ONLY AT MY DIRECTION! HE GAINED GREAT POWER, BUT ONLY BECAUSE OF MY MANIPULATION!
IT WAS I WHO DIRECTED HIM HERE, AND THE IDIOT NEVER EVEN REALIZED IT! I HAVE MADE MORDO WHAT HE IS, AND I CAN DESTROY HIM! NEVER FORGET THAT!
THERE! NOW THAT MORDO HAS BEEN REDUCED TO A MORE BASIC MYSTIC FORCE, HE SHOULD BE EVEN EASIER TO HANDLE!
YOU MAY HAVE WHAT'S LEFT OF HIM, BASKERVILLE!
WHAT'S... LEFT... OF HIM?
OF COURSE! YOU KNOW THAT POSSESSION IS AN ELEMENT OF MY INCARNATION RITUAL! DON'T STAND THERE LIKE A CLUMSY NOVICE...
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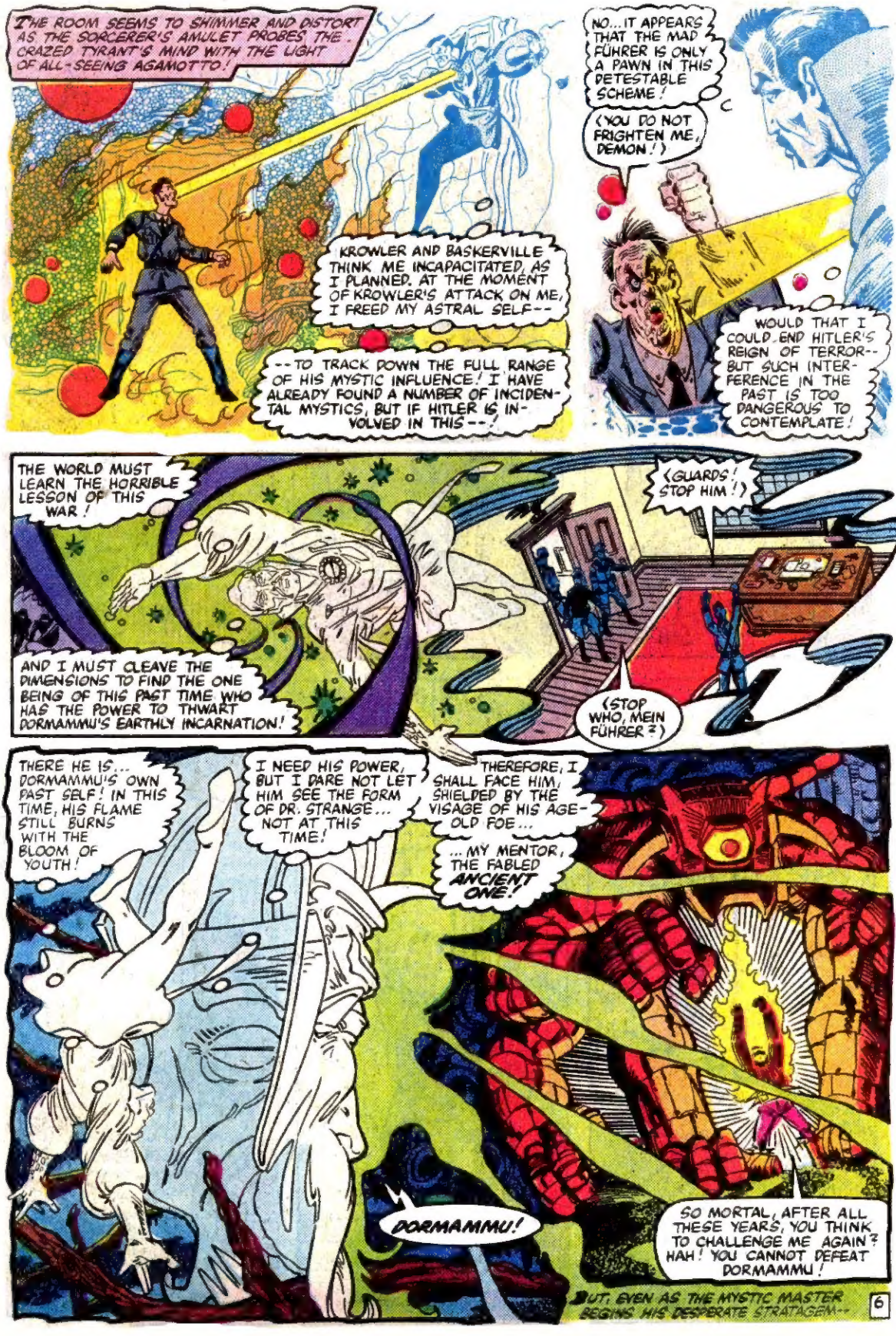
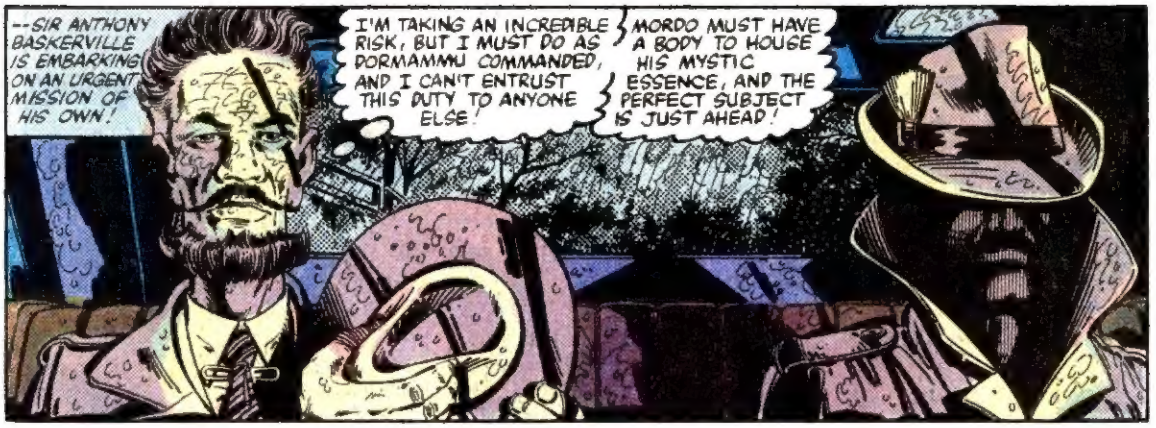
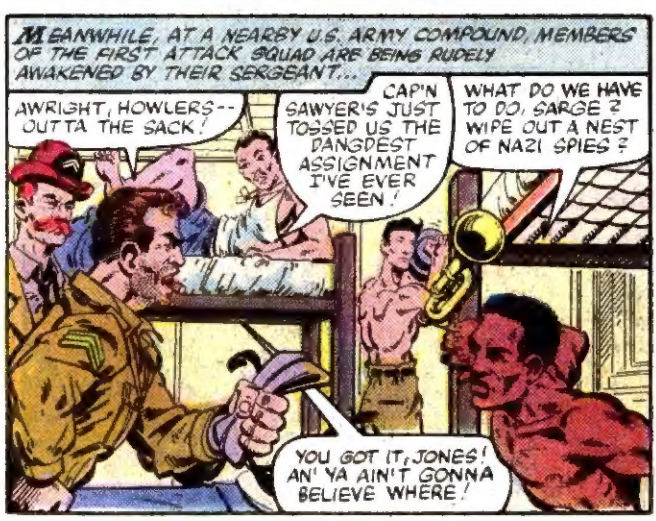
...GO FIND A BODY FOR HIS FORCE TO POSSESS!
I HAVE OTHER PREPARATIONS TO DISCUSS WITH VISCOUNT KROWLER!
I BEG YOUR PARDON, DREAD ONE, BUT WHAT FURTHER PREPARATION IS...
...NECESSARY?
DEMONS OF DENAK! MY HAND MOVES AS THOUGH IT HAD A MIND OF ITS OWN!
NAY, IT MOVES AT MY COMMAND, KROWLER! AS I SAID, A POSSESSION IS A NECESSARY ELEMENT OF THE COMING RITUAL...
...A DOUBLE POSSESSION!
YOU MEAN...
YES...
YES, I SEE...
IT IS MY DESTINY!
...A FIRE BUT SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FROM THAT IN THE EYES OF A MADMAN WHO STALKS THE HALLS OF ANOTHER RETREAT, JUST A FEW HUNDRED MILES AWAY!
(THE VERDAMMT BRITISH WILL DEFY ME NO LONGER!)
AS HE SPEAKS, A FIRE GLOWS IN VISCOUNT KROWLER'S EYES...
(THANKS TO THE INFORMATION SUPPLIED ME BY VISCOUNT KROWLER, THE DAWN SHALL SEE THE RETURN OF THE BLITZ TO LONDON'S SKIES!)
BY THE VISHANTI! I NEVER EXPECTED THAT THE MYSTIC TRAIL I FOUND WOULD LEAD ME HERE! COULD THIS MONSTER BE ENGAGED IN MAGICAL TERRORISM, IN ADDITION TO HIS OTHER CRIMES?
(HEAR ME, ADOLF HITLER!)
(EH? WHAT IS THIS?!)
(GUARDS!)
(YOUR GUARDS CANNOT HELP YOU! BY MY WILL, ONLY YOU CAN SEE THE ASTRAL FORM OF DOCTOR STRANGE!)


THE ROOM SEEMS TO SHIMMER AND DISTORT AS THE SORCERER'S AMULET PROBES THE CRAZED TYRANT'S MIND WITH THE LIGHT OF ALL-SEEING AGAMOTTO!
KROWLER AND BASKERVILLE THINK ME INCAPACITATED, AS I PLANNED. AT THE MOMENT OF KROWLER'S ATTACK ON ME, I FREED MY ASTRAL SELF--
--TO TRACK DOWN THE FULL RANGE OF HIS MYSTIC INFLUENCE! I HAVE ALREADY FOUND A NUMBER OF INCIDENTAL MYSTICS, BUT IF HITLER IS INVOLVED IN THIS--!
NO... IT APPEARS THAT THE MAD FÜHRER IS ONLY A PAWN IN THIS DETESTABLE SCHEME!
(YOU DO NOT FRIGHTEN ME, DEMON!)
WOULD THAT I COULD END HITLER'S REIGN OF TERROR-- BUT SUCH INTERFERENCE IN THE PAST IS TOO DANGEROUS TO CONTEMPLATE!
THE WORLD MUST LEARN THE HORRIBLE LESSON OF THIS WAR!
AND I MUST CLEAVE THE DIMENSIONS TO FIND THE ONE BEING OF THIS PAST TIME WHO HAS THE POWER TO THWART DORMAMMU'S EARTHLY INCARNATION!
(GUARDS! STOP HIM!)
(STOP WHO, MEIN FÜHRER?)
THERE HE IS... DORMAMMU'S OWN PAST SELF! IN THIS TIME, HIS FLAME STILL BURNS WITH THE BLOOM OF YOUTH!
I NEED HIS POWER, BUT I DARE NOT LET HIM SEE THE FORM OF DR. STRANGE... NOT AT THIS TIME!
THEREFORE, I SHALL FACE HIM, SHIELDED BY THE VISAGE OF HIS AGE-OLD FOE...
...MY MENTOR, THE FABLED ANCIENT ONE!
DORMAMMU!
SO MORTAL, AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, YOU THINK TO CHALLENGE ME AGAIN? HAH! YOU CANNOT DEFEAT DORMAMMU!
BUT, EVEN AS THE MYSTIC MASTER BEGINS HIS DESPERATE STRATAGEM--
6

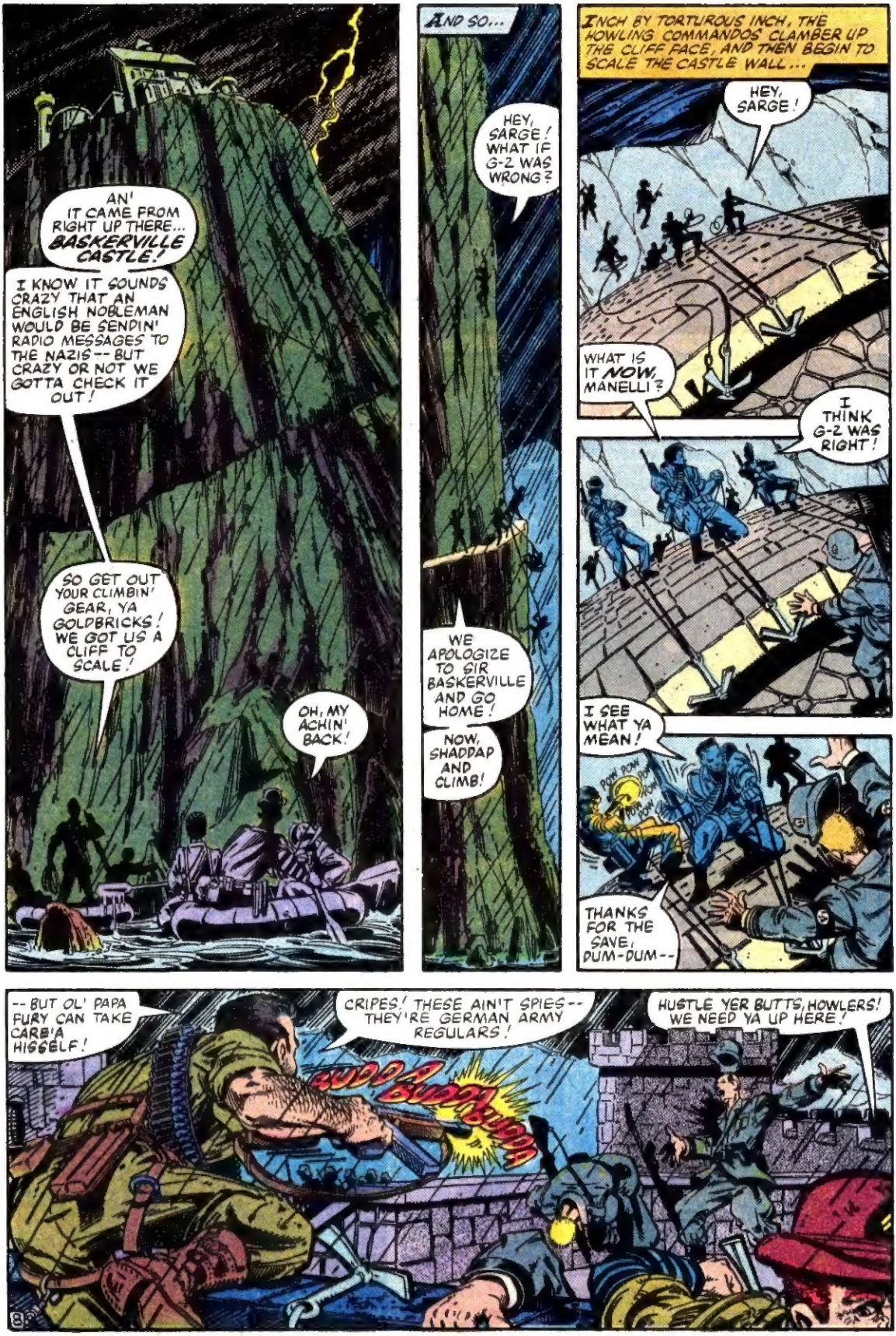

--SIR ANTHONY BASKERVILLE IS EMBARKING ON AN URGENT MISSION OF HIS OWN!
I'M TAKING AN INCREDIBLE RISK, BUT I MUST DO AS DORMAMMU COMMANDED, AND I CAN'T ENTRUST THIS DUTY TO ANYONE ELSE!
MORDO MUST HAVE A BODY TO HOUSE HIS MYSTIC ESSENCE, AND THE PERFECT SUBJECT IS JUST AHEAD!

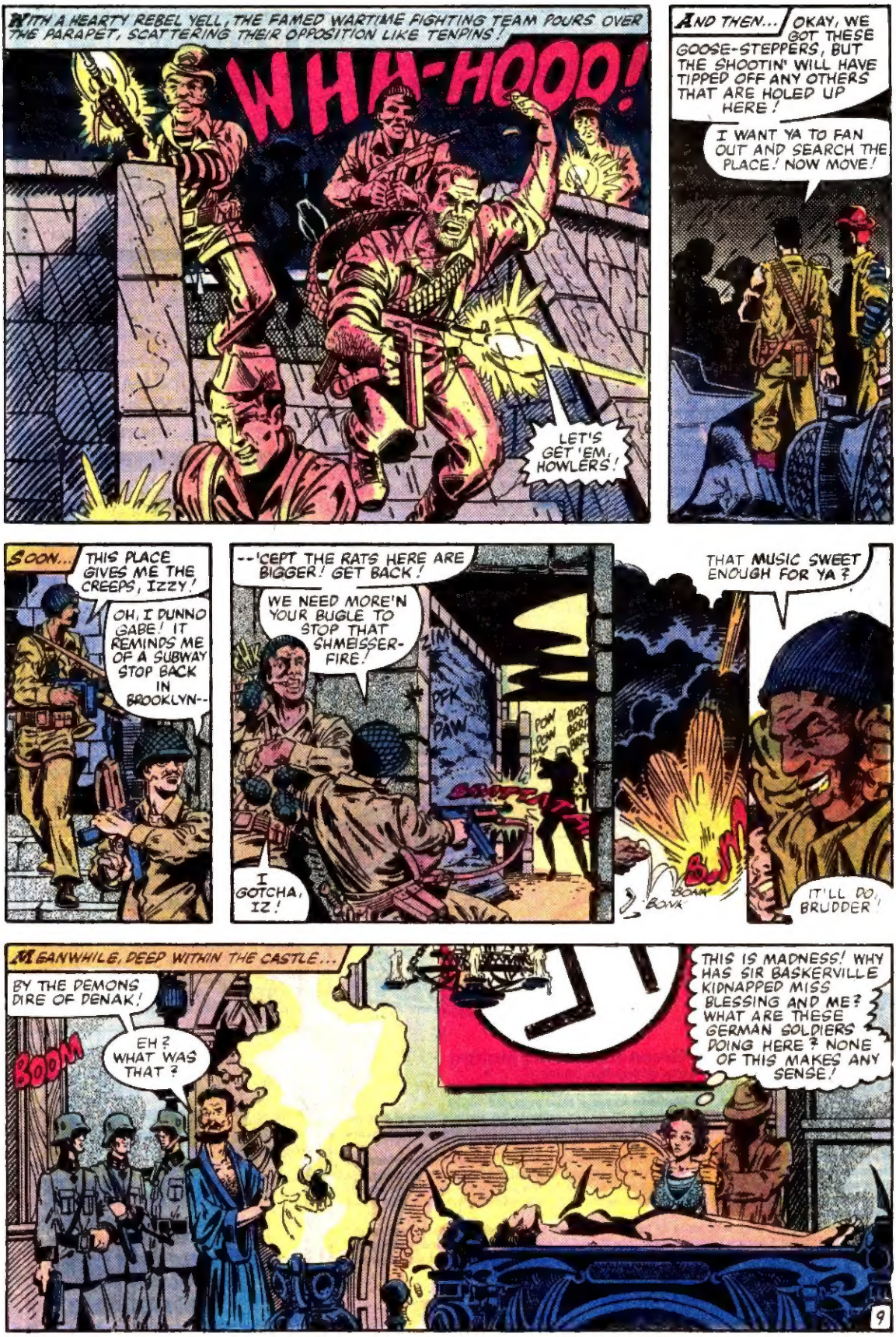
TELLING HIS DRIVER TO STOP, BASKERVILLE AND HIS MINION CREEP THROUGH THE SUDDEN SHRUBBERY TO THE SIDE OF THE WELL-KEPT ENGLISH ESTATE...
I WONDER WHAT LORD HAWLEY WOULD SAY, IF HE WERE TO SEE HIS OLD CRICKET PARTNER BREAKING INTO HIS HOME LIKE A COMMON THIEF?

SNAPPING THE LOCK ON A PAIR OF FRENCH WINDOWS, THE TWO FIGURES INVADE HAWLEY MANOR...
...BASKERVILLE'S SILENT FOLLOWER CHLOROFORMING YOUNG PAMELA HAWLEY, WHILE THE ENGLISH MYSTIC PERFORMS A SIMILAR DUTY ON HER HOUSEGUEST.
THIS IS THE ONE--MORGANA BLESSING, THE WOMAN FROM DR. STRANGE'S TIME!
MORDO USED HER AS A PSYCHIC FOCUS TO TRAVEL THROUGH TIME. I WISH SHE HADN'T BEEN BEFRIENDED BY LADY PAMELA ... THAT COMPLICATES THINGS ALL THE MORE!
I'M AFRAID PAMELA MAY HAVE SEEN MY FACE. I'VE NO CHOICE BUT TO TAKE HER ALONG WITH US!


MEANWHILE, AT A NEARBY U.S. ARMY COMPOUND, MEMBERS OF THE FIRST ATTACK SQUAD ARE BEING RUDELY AWAKENED BY THEIR SERGEANT...
AWRIGHT, HOWLERS--OUTTA THE SACK!
CAP'N SAWYER'S JUST TOSSED US THE DANGDEST ASSIGNMENT I'VE EVER SEEN!
WHAT DO WE HAVE TO DO, SARGE? WIPE OUT A NEST OF NAZI SPIES?
YOU GOT IT, JONES! AN' YA AIN'T GONNA BELIEVE WHERE!

LATER...
HEY, SARGE, THIS IS A GAG... RIGHT?
NOT ACCORDIN' TO G-2, IZZY! THEY INTERCEPTED A CODED MESSAGE TO THE NAZI HIGH COMMAND JUST A FEW HOURS AGO--


AN' IT CAME FROM RIGHT UP THERE... BASKERVILLE CASTLE!
I KNOW IT SOUNDS CRAZY THAT AN ENGLISH NOBLEMAN WOULD BE SENDIN' RADIO MESSAGES TO THE NAZIS -- BUT CRAZY OR NOT WE GOTTA CHECK IT OUT!
SO GET OUT YOUR CLIMBIN' GEAR, YA GOLDBRICKS! WE GOT US A CLIFF TO SCALE!
OH, MY ACHIN' BACK!
AND SO...
HEY, SARGE! WHAT IF G-2 WAS WRONG?
WE APOLOGIZE TO SIR BASKERVILLE AND GO HOME!
NOW, SHADDAP AND CLIMB!
INCH BY TORTUROUS INCH, THE HOWLING COMMANDOS CLAMBER UP THE CLIFF FACE, AND THEN BEGIN TO SCALE THE CASTLE WALL...
HEY, SARGE!
WHAT IS IT NOW, MANELLI?
I THINK G-2 WAS RIGHT!
I SEE WHAT YA MEAN!
POW POW POW POW POW POW
THANKS FOR THE SAVE, DUM-DUM--
-- BUT OL' PAPA FURY CAN TAKE CARE'A HISSELF!
CRIPES! THESE AIN'T SPIES -- THEY'RE GERMAN ARMY REGULARS!
BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
HUSTLE YER BUTTS, HOWLERS! WE NEED YA UP HERE!


WITH A HEARTY REBEL YELL, THE FAMED WARTIME FIGHTING TEAM POURS OVER THE PARAPET, SCATTERING THEIR OPPOSITION LIKE TENPINS!
WHA-HOOO!
LET'S GET 'EM, HOWLERS!
AND THEN... OKAY, WE GOT THESE GOOSE-STEPPERS, BUT THE SHOOTIN' WILL HAVE TIPPED OFF ANY OTHERS THAT ARE HOLED UP HERE!
I WANT YA TO FAN OUT AND SEARCH THE PLACE! NOW MOVE!
SOON... THIS PLACE GIVES ME THE CREEPS, IZZY!
OH, I DUNNO GABE! IT REMINDS ME OF A SUBWAY STOP BACK IN BROOKLYN--
--'CEPT THE RATS HERE ARE BIGGER! GET BACK!
WE NEED MORE'N YOUR BUGLE TO STOP THAT SHMEISSER-FIRE!
I GOTCHA, IZ!
THAT MUSIC SWEET ENOUGH FOR YA?
IT'LL DO, BRUDDER!
MEANWHILE, DEEP WITHIN THE CASTLE...
BY THE DEMONS DIRE OF DENAK!
BOOM
EH? WHAT WAS THAT?
THIS IS MADNESS! WHY HAS SIR BASKERVILLE KIDNAPPED MISS BLESSING AND ME? WHAT ARE THESE GERMAN SOLDIERS DOING HERE? NONE OF THIS MAKES ANY SENSE!
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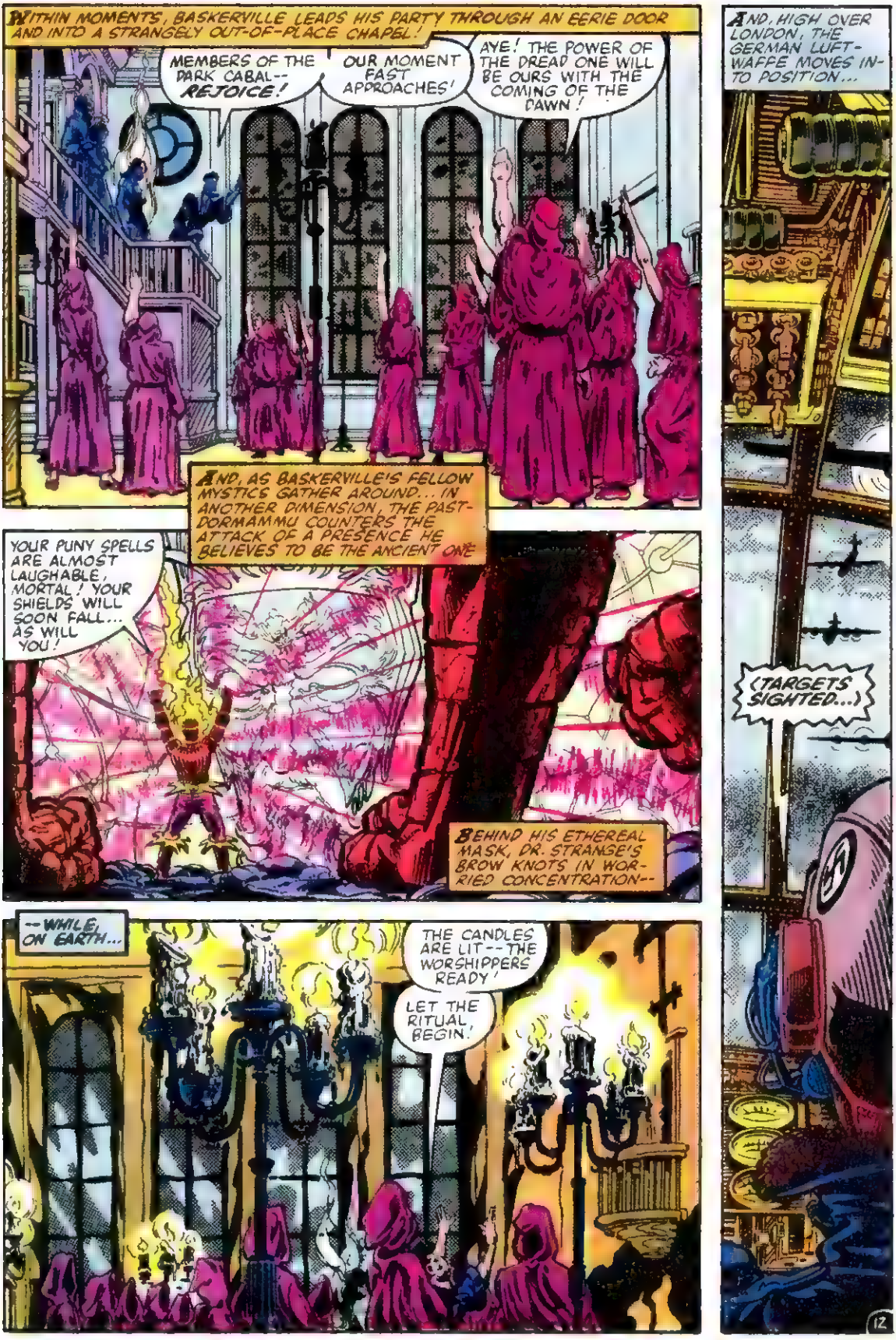
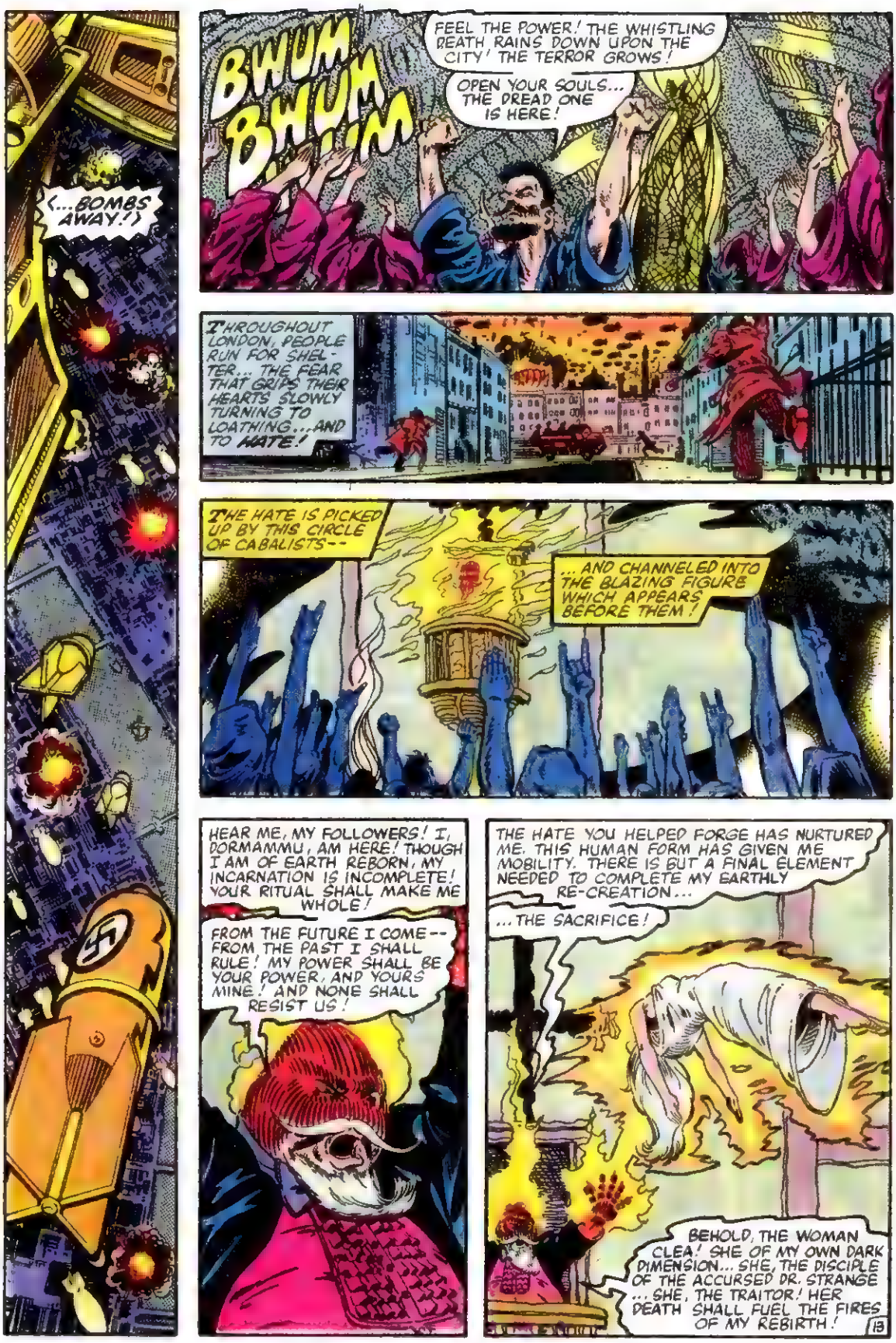
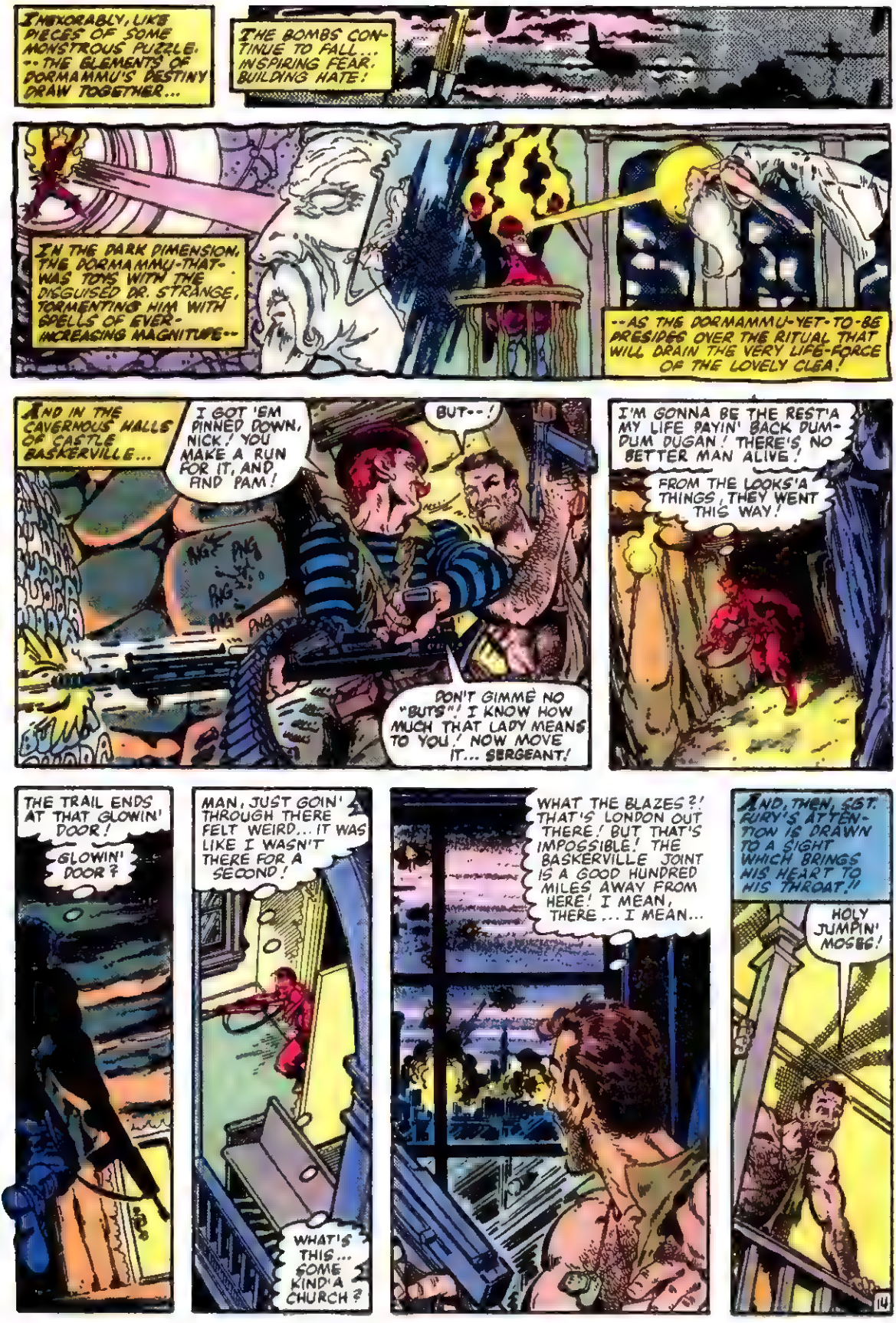
THERE IS A DISTURBANCE DOWN THE HALL, MEIN HERR! I WILL CHECK IT OUT!
YES, YOU DO THAT! MY WORK HERE MUST NOT BE INTERRUPTED!
NOW, WHERE WAS I? OH, YES...
BY THE DEMONS DIRE OF DENAK BY THE FLAMES FROM FALTINE TORN, BY THE SCARLET NIGHT OF DRAGGUS LET MORDO BE REBORN!
FROM THE HEART OF THE BURNING BRAZIER BILLOWS FORTH AN EBON SMOKE WHICH ASSUMES THE FORM OF A MAN! AND THEN...
THAT IMAGE--! IT...IT'S SEEPING INTO MISS BLESSING!
MORDO? CAN YOU HEAR ME--?
YES, BUT ...THIS BODY--?
THE BEST I COULD DO UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, I'M AFRAID! FOR MY SPELL TO BE MOST EFFECTIVE, I NEEDED A BODY FROM YOUR OWN TIME!
DR. STRANGE'S FORM RESISTED ALL BUT A FEW SIMPLE SPELLS, AND THIS WAS THE ONLY OTHER BODY I COULD PROCURE.
BUT THEN...
CRASH
AWRIGHT, EVERYBODY FREEZE!

GUARDS! KILL THE INTRU-DERS!
NICK?!
HUH?! PAM?! BABY, WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' HERE?
NICK, YA BLASTED IDJIT--
PNG PNG
PNG PNG PNG PNG PNG PNG PNG PNG
--GIT DOWN!!
CK CK
BRRP
BRRP BRRT BRRP
CK CK CK CK
THAT'S ANOTHER ONE I OWE YA, YA OL' WALRUS!
I'LL PUT IT ON YER TAB!
WHAT THE DICKENS IS YER LADY FRIEND DOIN' HERE?
I DUNNO, BUT I AIM TO FIND OUT!
HOLD YER FIRE! THE BEARDED GINK AN' HIS BUDDY ARE MAKIN OFF WITH THE LADIES, AN' I DON'T WANT THEM HURT!
CRIMINY, NICK, HOW MANY OF THESE BLASTED HALLWAYS ARE THERE?
THAT WAY!
I WISH I KNEW, DUM-DUM. THIS KEEPS GETTIN' STRANGER AND STRANGER!
HEH-HEH! SO MUCH FOR THE AMERICANS!
NOW I MUST BRIEF MORDO ON HIS ROLE IN THE COMING RITUAL! THE TIME IS DRAWING NEAR!
11


WITHIN MOMENTS, BASKERVILLE LEADS HIS PARTY THROUGH AN EERIE DOOR AND INTO A STRANGELY OUT-OF-PLACE CHAPEL!
MEMBERS OF THE DARK CABAL--REJOICE!
OUR MOMENT FAST APPROACHES!
AYE! THE POWER OF THE DREAD ONE WILL BE OURS WITH THE COMING OF THE DAWN!
AND, AS BASKERVILLE'S FELLOW MYSTICS GATHER AROUND... IN ANOTHER DIMENSION, THE PAST-DORMAMMU COUNTERS THE ATTACK OF A PRESENCE HE BELIEVES TO BE THE ANCIENT ONE
YOUR PUNY SPELLS ARE ALMOST LAUGHABLE, MORTAL! YOUR SHIELDS WILL SOON FALL... AS WILL YOU!
BEHIND HIS ETHEREAL MASK, DR. STRANGE'S BROW KNOTS IN WORRIED CONCENTRATION--
--WHILE, ON EARTH...
THE CANDLES ARE LIT--THE WORSHIPPERS READY!
LET THE RITUAL BEGIN!
AND, HIGH OVER LONDON, THE GERMAN LUFTWAFFE MOVES INTO POSITION...
(TARGETS SIGHTED...)


(...BOMBS AWAY!)
BWUM BWUM BWUM
FEEL THE POWER! THE WHISTLING DEATH RAINS DOWN UPON THE CITY! THE TERROR GROWS!
OPEN YOUR SOULS... THE DREAD ONE IS HERE!
THROUGHOUT LONDON, PEOPLE RUN FOR SHELTER... THE FEAR THAT GRIPS THEIR HEARTS SLOWLY TURNING TO LOATHING...AND TO HATE!
THE HATE IS PICKED UP BY THIS CIRCLE OF CABALISTS--
... AND CHANNELED INTO THE BLAZING FIGURE WHICH APPEARS BEFORE THEM!
HEAR ME, MY FOLLOWERS! I, DORMAMMU, AM HERE! THOUGH I AM OF EARTH REBORN, MY INCARNATION IS INCOMPLETE! YOUR RITUAL SHALL MAKE ME WHOLE!
FROM THE FUTURE I COME-- FROM THE PAST I SHALL RULE! MY POWER SHALL BE YOUR POWER, AND YOURS MINE! AND NONE SHALL RESIST US!
THE HATE YOU HELPED FORGE HAS NURTURED ME. THIS HUMAN FORM HAS GIVEN ME MOBILITY. THERE IS BUT A FINAL ELEMENT NEEDED TO COMPLETE MY EARTHLY RE-CREATION...
...THE SACRIFICE!
BEHOLD, THE WOMAN CLEA! SHE OF MY OWN DARK DIMENSION... SHE, THE DISCIPLE OF THE ACCURSED DR. STRANGE ... SHE, THE TRAITOR! HER DEATH SHALL FUEL THE FIRES OF MY REBIRTH!
13


INEXORABLY, LIKE PIECES OF SOME MONSTROUS PUZZLE. --THE ELEMENTS OF DORMAMMU'S DESTINY DRAW TOGETHER...
THE BOMBS CONTINUE TO FALL... INSPIRING FEAR. BUILDING HATE!
IN THE DARK DIMENSION, THE DORMAMMU-THAT-WAS TOYS WITH THE DISGUISED DR. STRANGE, TORMENTING HIM WITH SPELLS OF EVER-INCREASING MAGNITUDE--
--AS THE DORMAMMU-YET-TO-BE PRESIDES OVER THE RITUAL THAT WILL DRAIN THE VERY LIFE-FORCE OF THE LOVELY CLEA!
AND IN THE CAVERNOUS HALLS OF CASTLE BASKERVILLE...
I GOT 'EM PINNED DOWN, NICK! YOU MAKE A RUN FOR IT, AND FIND PAM!
BUT--!
DON'T GIMME NO "BUTS"! I KNOW HOW MUCH THAT LADY MEANS TO YOU! NOW MOVE IT... SERGEANT!
I'M GONNA BE THE REST'A MY LIFE PAYIN' BACK DUM-DUM DUGAN! THERE'S NO BETTER MAN ALIVE!
FROM THE LOOKS'A THINGS, THEY WENT THIS WAY!
THE TRAIL ENDS AT THAT GLOWIN' DOOR!
GLOWIN' DOOR?
MAN, JUST GOIN' THROUGH THERE FELT WEIRD... IT WAS LIKE I WASN'T THERE FOR A SECOND!
WHAT'S THIS... SOME KIND'A CHURCH?
WHAT THE BLAZES?! THAT'S LONDON OUT THERE! BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! THE BASKERVILLE JOINT IS A GOOD HUNDRED MILES AWAY FROM HERE! I MEAN, THERE... I MEAN...
AND, THEN, SGT. FURY'S ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO A SIGHT WHICH BRINGS HIS HEART TO HIS THROAT!!
HOLY JUMPIN' MOSES!
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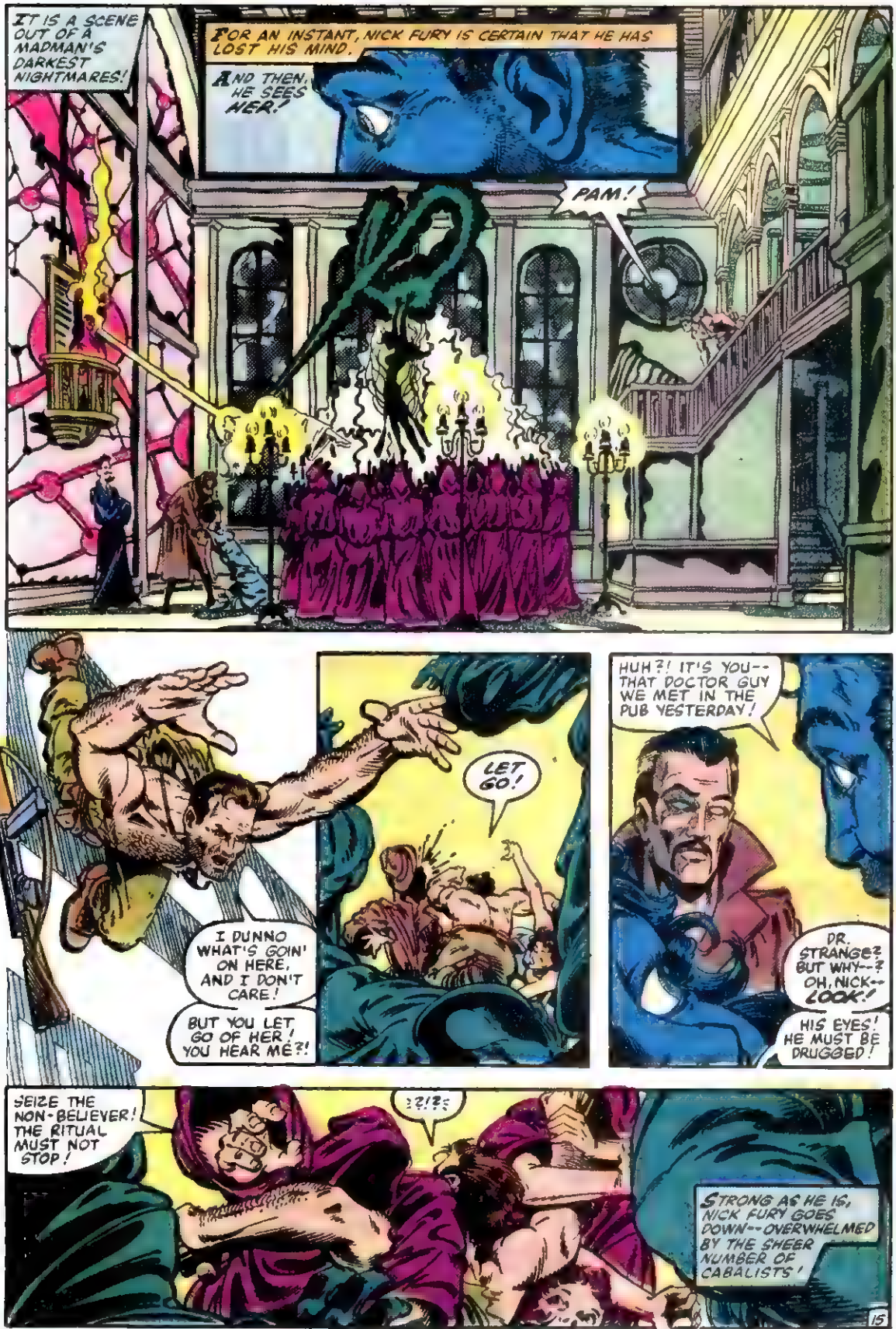
IT IS A SCENE OUT OF A MADMAN'S DARKEST NIGHTMARES!
FOR AN INSTANT, NICK FURY IS CERTAIN THAT HE HAS LOST HIS MIND.
AND THEN, HE SEES HER!
PAM!
LET GO!
I DUNNO WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE, AND I DON'T CARE!
BUT YOU LET GO OF HER, YOU HEAR ME?!
HUH?! IT'S YOU-- THAT DOCTOR GUY WE MET IN THE PUB YESTERDAY!
DR. STRANGE? BUT WHY--? OH, NICK-- LOOK!
HIS EYES! HE MUST BE DRUGGED!
SEIZE THE NON-BELIEVER! THE RITUAL MUST NOT STOP!
:?!?:
STRONG AS HE IS, NICK FURY GOES DOWN-- OVERWHELMED BY THE SHEER NUMBER OF CABALISTS!
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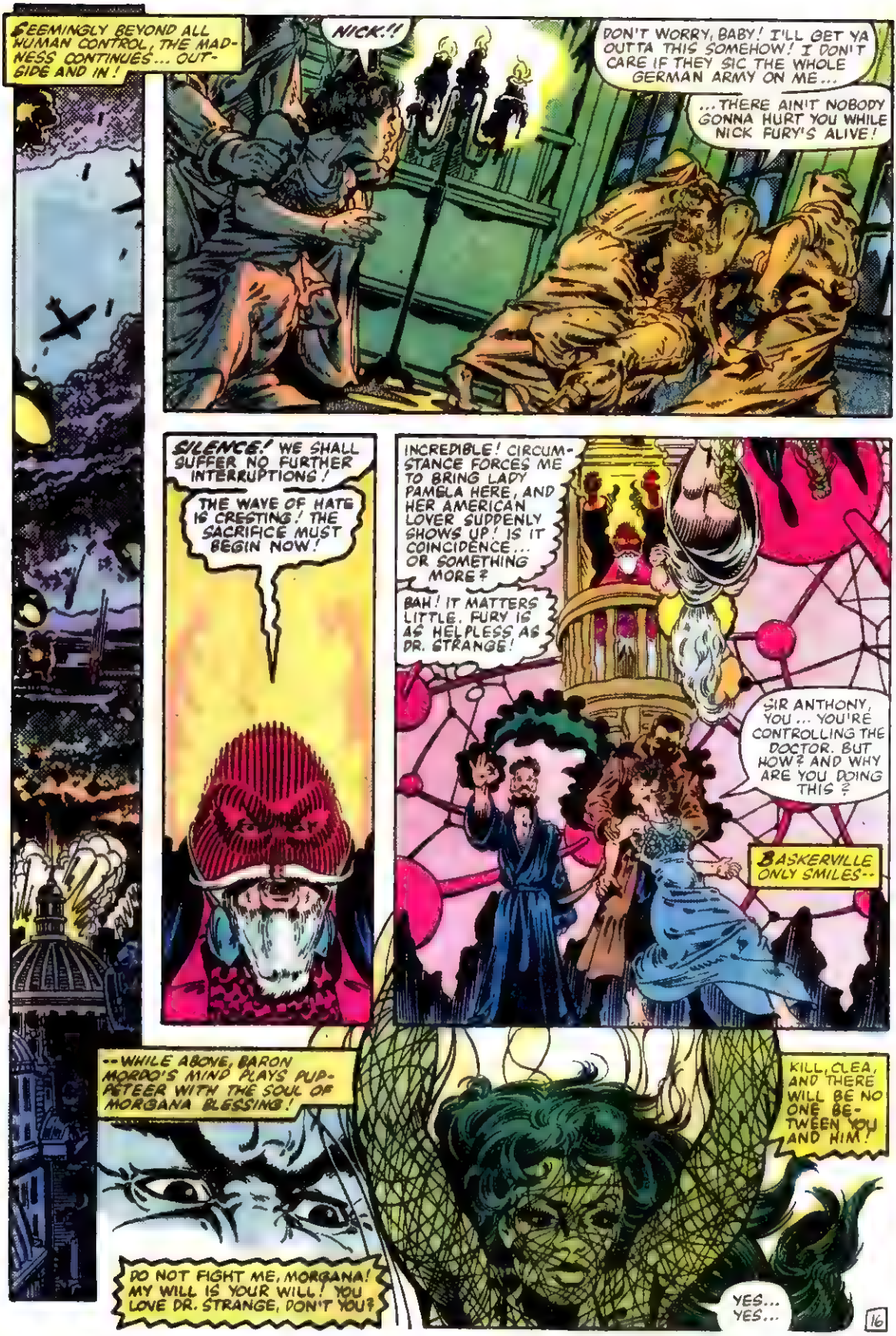
SEEMINGLY BEYOND ALL HUMAN CONTROL, THE MADNESS CONTINUES... OUTSIDE AND IN!
NICK!!
DON'T WORRY, BABY! I'LL GET YA OUTTA THIS SOMEHOW! I DON'T CARE IF THEY SIC THE WHOLE GERMAN ARMY ON ME...
...THERE AIN'T NOBODY GONNA HURT YOU WHILE NICK FURY'S ALIVE!
SILENCE! WE SHALL SUFFER NO FURTHER INTERRUPTIONS!
THE WAVE OF HATE IS CRESTING! THE SACRIFICE MUST BEGIN NOW!
INCREDIBLE! CIRCUMSTANCE FORCES ME TO BRING LADY PAMELA HERE, AND HER AMERICAN LOVER SUDDENLY SHOWS UP! IS IT COINCIDENCE... OR SOMETHING MORE?
BAH! IT MATTERS LITTLE. FURY IS AS HELPLESS AS DR. STRANGE!
SIR ANTHONY, YOU... YOU'RE CONTROLLING THE DOCTOR. BUT HOW? AND WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?
BASKERVILLE ONLY SMILES--
--WHILE ABOVE, BARON MORDO'S MIND PLAYS PUPPETEER WITH THE SOUL OF MORGANA BLESSING!
KILL, CLEA, AND THERE WILL BE NO ONE BETWEEN YOU AND HIM!
DO NOT FIGHT ME, MORGANA! MY WILL IS YOUR WILL! YOU LOVE DR. STRANGE, DON'T YOU?
YES... YES...

DO NOT FEAR THE FALLING BOMBS! AS MY POWER GROWS, SO DO MY SHIELDS ABOUT THIS CHAMBER!
USE MY MAGIC, MORGANA! USE IT TO KILL!
YES... TO KILL...
OUTSIDE, HATE IS AT ITS PEAK.
UNDERGROUND, FEAR GIVES WAY TO DESPAIR.
NOW! SLAY CLEA, AND LET ME LIVE!
STRANGE! YA GOTTA SNAP OUTTA IT! YA GOTTA GET PAM OUTTA HERE!
STRANGE!
IT IS ALL TOO MUCH FOR NICK FURY TO UNDERSTAND. HIS ONLY THOUGHT IS OF PAMELA'S SAFETY... HIS ONLY WISH IS TO TAKE HER IN HIS ARMS AND COMFORT HER...
...THE ONE WOMAN WHO MEANS MORE TO HIM THAN LIFE ITSELF!
AND THE BODY OF DR. STRANGE, BEREFT OF SOUL, SOMEHOW RESPONDS TO THE WAVE OF EMOTION FROM THE AMERICAN. THE RIGID FEATURES SOFTEN--
--AND IN HIS GLAZED EYES, PAMELA COULD ALMOST SWEAR THAT SHE SEES A FAMILIAR GAZE...
N-NICK?
AND IN THE DARK DIMENSION, STRANGE'S ASTRAL FORM SUDDENLY FREEZES IN THE MIDST OF BATTLE...
SOMETHING IS HAPPENING TO MY PHYSICAL FORM! I CAN SENSE AN OUT-POURING OF... LOVE?

ON EARTH, MINDLESS FLESH BEGINS TO FEEL TO CARE... TO REACT..
:MMMPH:
EH? THE HATE IS WEAKENING! BASKERVILLE.. STOP THEM!
STILL, THE RAIN OF HATE FALLS FROM THE LONDON SKIES..
...AND BURNS FROM WITHIN!
CLEA IS THE ONLY THING BETWEEN YOU AND DR. STRANGE! KILL HER!
SOMETHING HAS GONE WRONG! I CANNOT CONTROL DR. STRANGE ANY LONGER! MORDO, YOU MUST HELP ME!
AT FIRST, THE LADY RESISTS, BUT THEN SHE IS CAUGHT IN THE WAVE OF LOVE. SHE RESPONDS--
--AND THE LOVE GROWS!
WHAT'S GOIN' ON? SHE'S KISSIN' HIM, BUT I...
...I CAN TASTE HER LIPS!
MORDO!
STRIKE NOW! NOW!
THE ENERGY FLOWS BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN THE TWO, EVER BUILDING... EVER SPREADING
...SWEEPING OVER THE OTHERS IN A GLOWING FLOW OF LOVE!
KILL
THE MOMENT IS HERE! I MUST CHANNEL THE POWER--
..BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!
MUST KILL CLEA...
BUT... I CANNOT! SHE ALSO LOVES STEPHEN .. IN HER OWN WAY! I.. FEEL IT!
TO KILL WOULD WRONG HER... WRONG HIM... WRONG US!
IF YOU DON'T KILL HER, HE WILL NEVER BE YOURS!
KILL HER! KILL HER!
I.. WILL...
...NOT!
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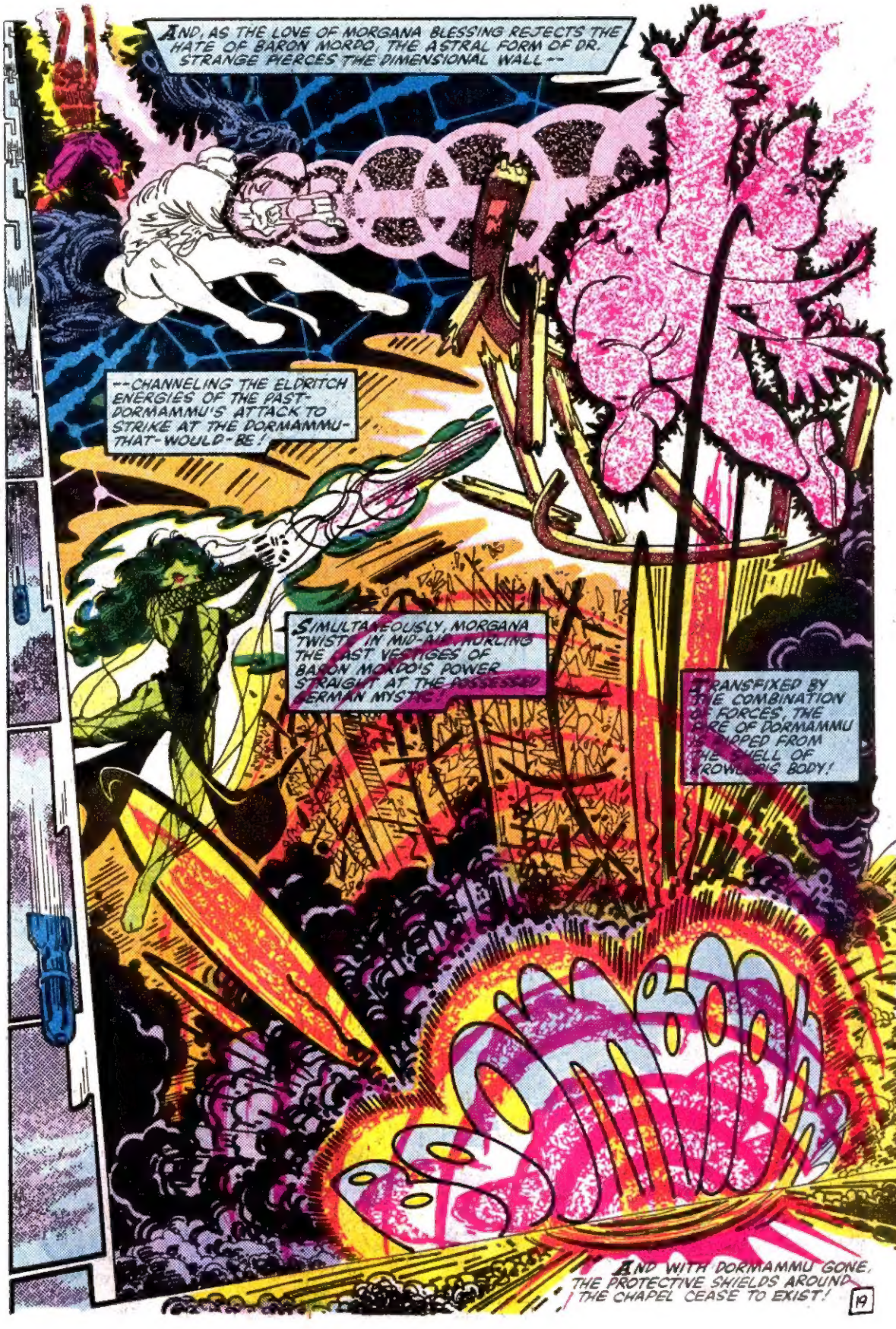
AND, AS THE LOVE OF MORGANA BLESSING REJECTS THE HATE OF BARON MORDO, THE ASTRAL FORM OF DR. STRANGE PIERCES THE DIMENSIONAL WALL --
--CHANNELING THE ELDRITCH ENERGIES OF THE PAST- DORMAMMU'S ATTACK TO STRIKE AT THE DORMAMMU- THAT-WOULD-BE!
SIMULTANEOUSLY, MORGANA TWISTS IN MID-AIR, HURLING THE LAST VESTIGES OF BARON MORDO'S POWER STRAIGHT AT THE POSSESSED TEUTONIC MYSTIC!
TRANSFIXED BY THE COMBINATION OF FORCES, THE ESSENCE OF DORMAMMU IS RIPPED FROM THE SHELL OF BROWNE'S BODY!
AND WITH DORMAMMU GONE, THE PROTECTIVE SHIELDS AROUND THE CHAPEL CEASE TO EXIST!

MINUTES LATER, ONLY A SMOLDERING RUIN REMAINS FOR THE ASTRAL DOCTOR TO SEARCH...
I WOULD NOT HAVE THOUGHT DORMAMMU TO BE SO EASILY OVERCOME. APPARENTLY, I WAS NOT ALONE IN MY ATTACK!
AT LEAST THE BOMBING HAS ENDED, THANK HOGGOTH! I MUST FIND AND MERGE WITH MY PHYSICAL SELF ONCE MORE. WE HAVE BEEN SEPARATE TOO LONG, AND I GROW WEAK!
AH, THERE IT IS!
STRANGE! HEY, DR. STRANGE--ARE YOU OKAY?
I AM NOW, SERGEANT! I'M GLAD TO SEE THAT YOU AND LADY PAMELA ESCAPED SERIOUS HARM!
YEAH. THE GOONS IN THE ROBES WEREN'T SO LUCKY.
SAY, I GOT A LOT OF QUESTIONS FOR YOU, PAL!
HMM... THE LIGHT OF MY AMULET CAN FIND NO TRACES OF EITHER DORMAMMU OR BARON MORDO--YET I SENSED BOTH OF THEM HERE AS I CROSSED THE DIMENSIONS!
THE COMBINATION OF FORCES WHICH COINCIDED WITH MY ATTACK HAS APPARENTLY SCATTERED THEIR ESSENCES THROUGHOUT THE MYRIAD REALITIES. I WILL NEED TO CHECK THIS FURTHER.
IN A MOMENT, SERGEANT!
:KOFF-KOFF: STEPHEN?
MORGANA!
THE... THE POWER THAT POSSESSED ME... IT WAS AWFUL! IT MADE ME WANT TO KILL!
BUT :KOFF: YOU SAVED ME... WITH... YOUR LOVE!
LOVE? AH-HA!
YOU HAVE JUST BEEN THROUGH A TERRIBLE ORDEAL, MORGANA! WE'LL SPEAK MORE OF THIS LATER!
FOR NOW, I WANT YOU TO RELAX. CLEAR YOUR MIND, AND ALL WILL BE WELL!
LET MISTS OF MORPHEUS SOOTHE THY BROW THAT FEARS AND CARES MAY FLY! AND TILL SUCH TIME I CALL "ENOW!" SLEEP CALMLY WITH THE SKY!

IN THE SKIES ABOVE, THE VALIANT ROYAL AIR FORCE SENDS THE NAZI BOMBERS FLEEING EAST INTO THE DAWN OF A NEW DAY!
AND, AMID THE RUBBLE BELOW, DR. STRANGE CONTINUES TO SEARCH FOR SURVIVORS...
BASKERVILLE AND KROWLER STILL LIVE, I SEE.
I KNEW BASKERVILLE WOULD SURVIVE... HE'S DESTINED TO BECOME A FOLLOWER OF MORDO IN A FEW DECADES!
POOR KROWLER HAS LOST HIS SANITY, THOUGH!
MEIN GEIST...WO IST MEIN GEMÜT?
WHAT THE BLAZES IS GOIN' ON HERE?!
AH, CORPORAL DUGAN! HOW NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
YOO-HOO!
WHAT GIVES NICK? THIS LOOKS LIKE LONDON...
...BUT THAT CAN'T BE!
IF YA THINK THAT'S CRAZY, YA SHOULDA SEEN WHAT PAM AN' I JUST WENT THROUGH!
THIS SOUNDS PLUMB LOCO, BUT I THINK DOC STRANGE IS SOME KINDA WITCH DOCTOR!
YOU ARE A MOST EXTRA-ORDINARY MAN, SERGEANT! PERHAPS WE'LL MEET AGAIN SOME DAY. BUT FOR NOW, IT IS BEST THAT YOU NOT REMEMBER ME!
BY THE EYE OF AGAMOTTO LET YOUR THOUGHTS NOW REARRANGE! RETRACE THE STEPS JUST TAKEN...
...AND FORGET YOU DOCTOR STRANGE!
THAT'S IT, MY FRIENDS--RETURN TO CASTLE BASKERVILLE.
I SHALL SEAL THE MAGIC DOOR BEHIND YOU!
GUTEN MORGEN, MEIN HERR! HAST DU MEIN GEMÜT SEIN?
THEY ARE NOBLE PEOPLE. I HOPE THEY CAN FIND SOME BIT OF PEACE AMID THIS AWFUL WAR.
STEPHEN?
EH? CLEA!
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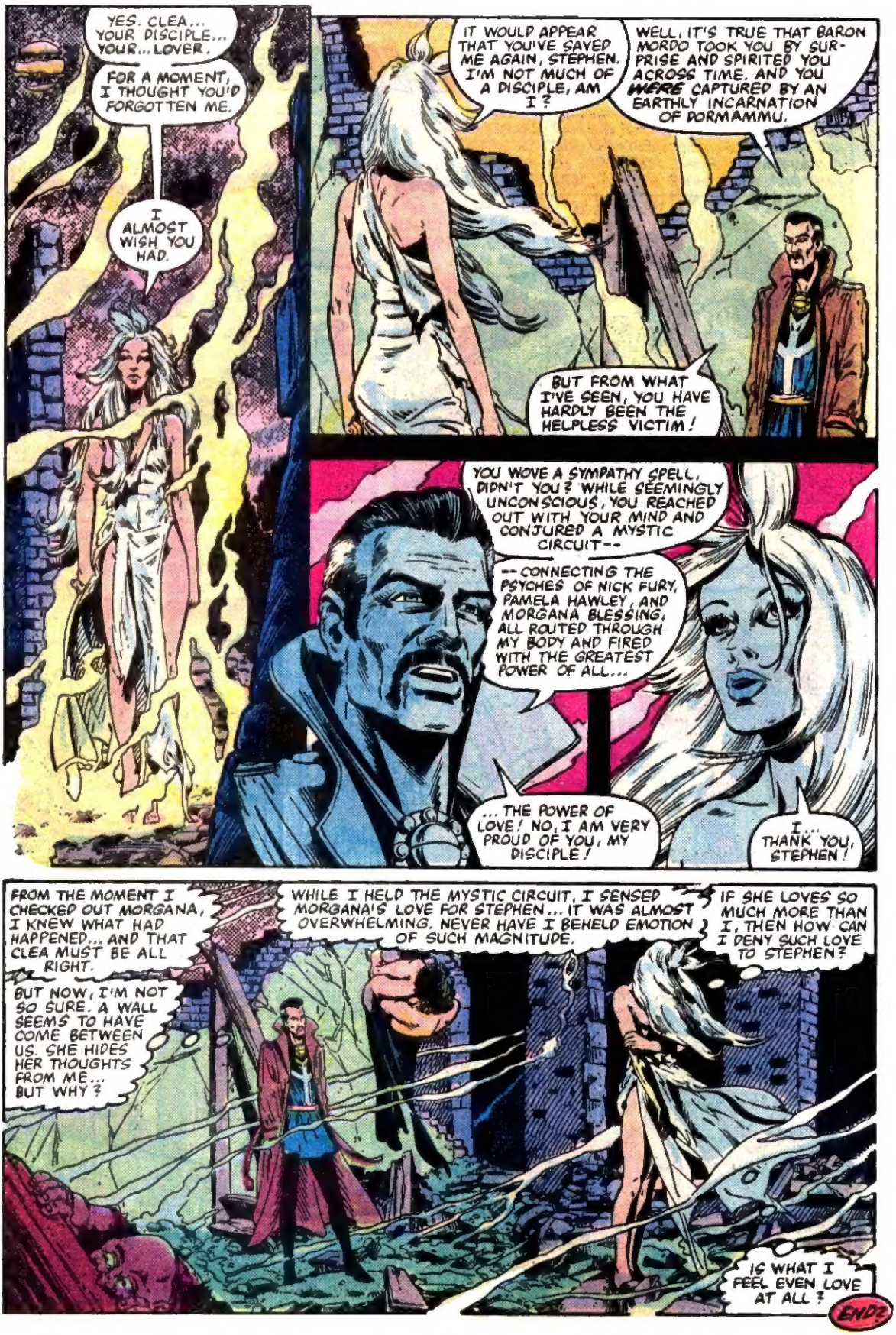
YES. CLEA... YOUR DISCIPLE... YOUR... LOVER.
FOR A MOMENT, I THOUGHT YOU'D FORGOTTEN ME.
I ALMOST WISH YOU HAD.
IT WOULD APPEAR THAT YOU'VE SAVED ME AGAIN, STEPHEN. I'M NOT MUCH OF A DISCIPLE, AM I?
WELL, IT'S TRUE THAT BARON MORDO TOOK YOU BY SURPRISE AND SPIRITED YOU ACROSS TIME. AND YOU *WERE* CAPTURED BY AN EARTHLY INCARNATION OF DORMAMMU.
BUT FROM WHAT I'VE SEEN, YOU HAVE HARDLY BEEN THE HELPLESS VICTIM!
YOU WOVE A SYMPATHY SPELL, DIDN'T YOU? WHILE SEEMINGLY UNCONSCIOUS, YOU REACHED OUT WITH YOUR MIND AND CONJURED A MYSTIC CIRCUIT--
--CONNECTING THE PSYCHES OF NICK FURY, PAMELA HAWLEY, AND MORGANA BLESSING, ALL ROUTED THROUGH MY BODY AND FIRED WITH THE GREATEST POWER OF ALL...
... THE POWER OF LOVE! NO, I AM VERY PROUD OF YOU, MY DISCIPLE!
I... THANK YOU, STEPHEN!
FROM THE MOMENT I CHECKED OUT MORGANA, I KNEW WHAT HAD HAPPENED... AND THAT CLEA MUST BE ALL RIGHT.
WHILE I HELD THE MYSTIC CIRCUIT, I SENSED MORGANA'S LOVE FOR STEPHEN... IT WAS ALMOST OVERWHELMING. NEVER HAVE I BEHELD EMOTION OF SUCH MAGNITUDE.
IF SHE LOVES SO MUCH MORE THAN I, THEN HOW CAN I DENY SUCH LOVE TO STEPHEN?
BUT NOW, I'M NOT SO SURE. A WALL SEEMS TO HAVE COME BETWEEN US. SHE HIDES HER THOUGHTS FROM ME... BUT WHY?
IS WHAT I FEEL EVEN LOVE AT ALL?
END?